U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY | Richland Operations Office

DOE News Release
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Walla Walla Rotary Club to Host Speaker from Hanford

Bryan Foley to Provide Group with Overview of History and Cleanup of Hanford Site

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Department of Energy's (DOE) Bryan Foley will speak as a guest at the Walla Walla Rotary Club on Thursday, June 23, at noon at the Marcus Whitman Hotel in downtown Walla Walla. Foley is the Deputy Federal Project Director for Soil and Groundwater at the DOE Richland Operations Office in Richland.

The Hanford Site sits adjacent to the Columbia River in southeastern Washington state and for over four decades was the primary producer of plutonium for national defense. The site stopped producing plutonium with the end of the Cold War in 1989 and began a new chapter of environmental cleanup.

Hanford's latest chapter is one of thousands of employees demolishing facilities, digging up contaminated debris and soil, remediating contaminated groundwater, building a treatment plant to isolate millions of gallons of tank waste, and placing former plutonium production reactors in a state of safe storage until they can be removed from the landscape.

Part of the presentation will include a showing of the first chapter of The Hanford Story multimedia series, Hanford Overview, which recently received an Emmy for best Historical/Cultural – Program/Special by the Northwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences at its 48th Annual Emmy Awards in Snoqualmie, Wash., on Saturday, June 11, 2011. The Hanford Story video is available on http://www.youtube.com/hanfordsite.

Foley's speech is part of DOE's Hanford Speakers Bureau, a regional outreach program by DOE to provide updates on the Hanford Site to communities in the Pacific Northwest. This year alone, the Hanford Speakers Bureau has presented to more than 40 audiences and spoken to approximately 1,500 participants.

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